

Highway Administration; and Susan E. Schruth, Associate Administrator, Federal Transit Administration.

#### **OVERSIGHT—DISASTER PROTECTION GULF COAST RECOVERY**

*Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure:* Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held an oversight hearing entitled “Expert Views on Hurricane and Flood Protection and Water Resources Planning for a Rebuilt Gulf Coast.” Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army: John Paul Woodley, Jr., Assistant Secretary (Civil Works); and LTG Carl A. Strock, USA, Chief; Benjamin H. Grumbles, Assistant Administrator, Water, EPA; and public witnesses.

#### **VETERANS LEGISLATION**

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:* Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 3665, amended, Veterans Housing Improvement Act of 2005; H.R. 1691, To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Appleton, Wisconsin, as the “John H. Bradley Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic;” and H.R. 4061, Department of Veterans Affairs Information Technology Management Improvement Act of 2005.

#### **OVERSIGHT—VA’s DISABILITY COMPENSATION CLAIMS PROCESS**

*Committee on Veterans’ Affairs:* Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs held an oversight hearing on variances in disability compensation claims decisions made by the VA Regional Offices, the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder claims review; and United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit decision *Allen v. Principi*. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Jon A. Wooditch, Acting Inspector General, Audits; Steven H. Brown, M.D., Director, Compensation and Pension Examination Project; and Ronald R. Aument, Deputy Under Secretary, Benefits, Veterans Benefits Administration; Cynthia

A. Bascetta, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security Issues, GAO; and John M. Garcia, Secretary, Department of Veterans’ Services, State of New Mexico.

#### **BRIEFING—GLOBAL UPDATES/HOTSPOTS**

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to receive a Briefing on Global Updates/Hotspots. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

#### **BRIEFING—AERIAL COMMON SENSOR PROGRAM**

*Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence:* Met in executive session to receive a Briefing on Aerial Common Sensor Program. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

### *Joint Meetings*

#### **ECONOMIC OUTLOOK**

*Joint Economic Committee:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the current economic outlook, focusing on the effects of the recent Gulf Coast hurricanes on the economy of the United States since a significant portion of U.S. oil and gas production is concentrated in the Gulf area, after receiving testimony from Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers; David F. Seiders, National Association of Home Builders, Washington, D.C.; and Mickey D. Levy, Bank of America, and Brad Setser, Roubini Global Economics, LLC, both of New York, New York.

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#### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2005**

*(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)*

##### **Senate**

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

##### **House**

No committee meetings are scheduled.

*Next Meeting of the SENATE*

9:30 a.m., Friday, October 21

*Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*

Noon, Monday, October 24

## Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will begin consideration of H.R. 3010, Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations.

## House Chamber

Program for Monday: To be announced.

## Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

## HOUSE

Baird, Brian, Wash., E2152  
 Becerra, Xavier, Calif., E2149  
 Bishop, Timothy H., N.Y., E2138  
 Bordallo, Madeleine Z., Guam, E2149  
 Brown, Sherrod, Ohio, E2140  
 Brown-Waite, Ginny, Fla., E2134, E2135  
 Cramer, Robert E. (Bud), Jr., Ala., E2144  
 Cummings, Elijah E., Md., E2150  
 Davis, Jim, Fla., E2141  
 DeLauro, Rosa L., Conn., E2138  
 Diaz-Balart, Mario, Fla., E2148  
 English, Phil, Pa., E2148  
 Everett, Terry, Ala., E2137  
 Filner, Bob, Calif., E2143  
 Gerlach, Jim, Pa., E2152  
 Gibbons, Jim, Nev., E2150

Granger, Kay, Tex., E2139  
 Green, Gene, Tex., E2133, E2135  
 Hastings, Alcee L., Fla., E2144  
 Herseth, Stephanie, S.D., E2142  
 Hoyer, Steny H., Md., E2142  
 Kennedy, Mark R., Minn., E2141  
 King, Steve, Iowa, E2149  
 Kingston, Jack, Ga., E2142  
 Langevin, James R., R.I., E2143  
 Lantos, Tom, Calif., E2151  
 Lewis, Jerry, Calif., E2142  
 LoBiondo, Frank A., N.J., E2147  
 Lofgren, Zoe, Calif., E2143  
 McKinney, Cynthia A., Ga., E2144  
 Maloney, Carolyn B., N.Y., E2139  
 Miller, George, Calif., E2140  
 Miller, Jeff, Fla., E2148  
 Moran, James P., Va., E2138

Myrick, Sue Wilkins, N.C., E2147  
 Ortiz, Solomon P., Tex., E2137  
 Paul, Ron, Tex., E2140  
 Pence, Mike, Ind., E2139  
 Regula, Ralph, Ohio, E2136, E2149  
 Rogers, Mike, Ala., E2133, E2135  
 Rohrabacher, Dana, Calif., E2147  
 Sánchez, Linda T., Calif., E2148  
 Schiff, Adam B., Calif., E2139  
 Sensenbrenner, F. James, Jr., Wisc., E2141  
 Simpson, Michael K., Idaho, E2136  
 Tancredo, Thomas G., Colo., E2140  
 Tauscher, Ellen O., Calif., E2149  
 Towns, Edolphus, N.Y., E2133, E2134, E2135, E2136  
 Udall, Mark, Colo., E2133, E2134, E2136, E2137  
 Weller, Jerry, Ill., E2143  
 Wilson, Joe, S.C., E2152  
 Young, Don, Alaska, E2150



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